

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

Claims 1 to 5 cancelled.

6. (Currently amended) A biodegradable polymer composition comprising a biodegradable polymer and a free radical scavenger;
said free radical scavenger being at least one selected from the group consisting of polyphenols, tannic acids, gallic acids and vitamin E.

7. (Previously presented) The biodegradable composition according to Claim 6, wherein a drop in average molecular weight of said composition subsequent to subjecting said composition to heat treatment or radiation sterilization is not greater than 30% of an average molecular weight of said composition prior to heat treatment or radiation sterilization.

8. (Currently amended) The biodegradable composition according to Claim 6, wherein a drop in average molecular weight of said composition subsequent to subjecting said composition to heat treatment ~~or~~ and radiation

sterilization is not greater than 30% of an average molecular weight of said composition prior to heat treatment and radiation sterilization.

9. (Previously presented) The biodegradable composition according to Claim 6, wherein said biodegradable polymer is at least one selected from the group consisting of natural and synthetic polymers.

10. (Currently amended) The biodegradable composition according to Claim 6, wherein said biodegradable polymer is at least one selected from the group consisting of collagen, cellulose, starch, hyaluronic acid, chitin, chitosan, gelatin, albumin, polyglycolic acid, polylactic acid, polydioxanan, polyamino acid, polycaprolactone, copolymer of lactic acid and glycolic acid, copolymer of lactic acid and caprolactone, copolymer of glycolic acid and caprolactone, and polyhydroxybutylate.

Claim 11 cancelled.

12. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ A biodegradable polymer composition according to Claim 6, ~~wherein said comprising a biodegradable polymer and a free radical scavenger, said free radical scavenger being is~~ triarylisocyanulate.

Claim 13 cancelled.

Claim 14 cancelled.

15. (Previously presented) The biodegradable polymer composition according to Claim 6, wherein said free radical scavenger is present in an amount from 0.01 to 10 wt. % by volume per 100 wt. % of polymer.

16. (Previously presented) The biodegradable polymer composition according to Claim 6, wherein said free radical scavenger is present in an amount from 0.01 to 2 wt. % by volume per 100 wt. % of polymer.

17. (Previously presented) The biodegradable polymer composition according to Claim 6, wherein said biodegradable polymer composition is formed as a complex in an inorganic compound.

18. (Previously presented) The biodegradable polymer composition according to Claim 17, wherein said inorganic compound is selected from the group consisting of apatite, zeolite or titanium oxide.

19. (Currently amended) A method for producing a biodegradable polymer composition comprising mixing a biodegradable polymer and a free radical scavenger and subjecting said mixture to heat treatment or radiation sterilization; said free radical scavenger being at least one selected from the group consisting of polyphenols, tannic acids, gallic acids and vitamin E.

20. (Currently amended) A method for producing a biodegradable polymer composition comprising mixing a biodegradable polymer and a free radical scavenger and subjecting said mixture to heat treatment and radiation sterilization; said free radical scavenger being at least one selected from the group consisting of polyphenols, tannic acids, gallic acids and vitamin E.

21. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ A method for producing a biodegradable polymer composition ~~according to Claim 19, wherein said~~ comprising mixing a biodegradable polymer and a free radical scavenger is and subjecting said mixture to heat treatment and radiation sterilization; said free radical scavenger being premixed in a solvent.

22. (Previously presented) The method for producing a biodegradable composition according to Claim 19, wherein said biodegradable

polymer is at least one selected from the group consisting of natural and synthetic polymers.

23. (Currently amended) The method for producing a biodegradable composition according to Claim 19, wherein said biodegradable polymer is at least one selected from the group consisting of collagen, cellulose, starch, hyaluronic acid, chitin, chitosan, gelatin, albumin, polyglycolic acid, polylactic acid, polydioxanan, polyamino acid, polycaprolactone, copolymer of lactic acid and glycolic acid, copolymer of lactic acid and caprolactone, copolymer of glycolic acid and caprolactone, and polyhydroxybutylate.

Claim 24 cancelled.

25. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ A method for producing a biodegradable composition ~~according to Claim 19, wherein~~ comprising mixing a biodegradable polymer and a free radical scavenger and subjecting said mixture to heat treatment or radiation sterilization, said free radical scavenger is being triarylisocyanulate.

Claim 26 cancelled.

Claim 27 cancelled.

28. (Currently amended) ~~The A~~ method for producing a biodegradable polymer composition ~~according to Claim 19, wherein comprising mixing a biodegradable polymer and a free radical scavenger and subjecting said mixture to heat treatment or radiation sterilization,~~ said free radical scavenger ~~is being~~ present in an amount from 0.01 to 10 wt. % by volume per 100 wt. % of polymer.

29. (Currently amended) ~~The A~~ method for producing a biodegradable polymer composition ~~according to Claim 19, wherein comprising mixing a biodegradable polymer and a free radical scavenger and subjecting said mixture to heat treatment or radiation sterilization,~~ said free radical scavenger ~~is being~~ present in an amount from 0.01 to 2 wt. % by volume per 100 wt. % of polymer.

30. (Previously presented) The method for producing a biodegradable polymer composition according to Claim 19, wherein said biodegradable polymer composition is formed as a complex in an inorganic compound.

31. (Previously presented) The method for producing a biodegradable polymer composition according to Claim 30, wherein said inorganic compound is selected from the group consisting of apatite, zeolite or titanium oxide.

32. (Currently amended) The method for producing a biodegradable polymer composition of Claim 19, wherein the composition is produced at ~~not at~~ a temperature not more than 50-degree Centigrade higher ~~than the~~ melting temperature of the biodegradable polymer.

33. (Currently amended) The method for producing a biodegradable polymer composition of Claim 19, wherein the composition is produced in a dose of ~~radial rays~~ radioactive rays in the range of 1.0 to 3.0Mrad at sterilization.